PUBLIC LAW 99-223—DEC. 28, 1985

PANAMA CANAL COMMISSION AUTHORIZATION ACT, FISCAL YEAR 1986

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Public Law 99-223
99th Congress

An Act

Dec. 28, 1985
[H.R. 1784]

To authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1986 for the operation and maintenance of the Panama Canal, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

Panama Canal Commission Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 1986.

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Panama Canal Commission Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 1986".

SEC. 2. OPERATING EXPENSES.

There is authorized to be appropriated from the Panama Canal Commission Fund to the Panama Canal Commission (hereafter in this Act referred to as the "Commission") for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 1985, not more than $436,784,000, for necessary expenses of the Commission incurred under the Panama Canal Act of 1979 (Public Law 96-70; 22 U.S.C. 3601 et seq.), including expenses for—

(1) the hire of passenger motor vehicles and aircraft;

(2) the purchase of passenger motor vehicles as may be necessary for fiscal year 1986, the number and price of which may not exceed the amount provided in appropriation Acts; except that large heavy duty passenger sedans used to transport employees of the Commission across the Isthmus of Panama may be purchased for the fiscal year 1986 without regard to price limitations set forth in applicable regulations of any department or agency of the United States;

(3) official receptions and representation expenses, except that not more than $33,000 may be made available for such expenses, of which (A) not more than $8,000 may be made available for such expenses of the Supervisory Board of the Commission, and (B) not more than $25,000 may be made available for such expenses of the Administrator of the Commission;

(4) the procurement of expert and consultant services as provided in section 3109 of title 5, United States Code;

(5) a residence for the Administrator of the Commission;

(6) uniforms, or allowances therefor, as authorized by sections 5901 and 5902 of title 5, United States Code;

(7) disbursements by the Administrator of the Commission for employee recreation and community projects; and

(8) the operation of guide services.

SEC. 3. CAPITAL OUTLAY.

Of any funds appropriated pursuant to section 2 of this Act, not more than $26,500,000 (which is authorized to remain available until expended) may be made available for the acquisition, construction, replacement, and improvement of facilities, structures, and equipment required by the Commission.

SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS.

In addition to the amount authorized to be appropriated by section 2 of this Act, there are authorized to be appropriated to the Commission for the fiscal year 1986 such amounts as may be necessary for—

(1) increases in salary, pay, retirement, and other employee benefits provided by law;

(2) covering payments to Panama under paragraph 4(a) of article XIII of the Panama Canal Treaty of 1977, as provided by section 1341(a) of the Panama Canal Act of 1979 (22 U.S.C. 3751(a)); and

(3) increased costs for fuel.

SEC. 5. BENEFITS FOR CERTAIN EMPLOYEES.

(a) EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL BENEFITS.—Section 1207(b)(2) of the Panama Canal Act of 1979 (22 U.S.C. 3647(b)(2)) is amended by striking out "one round trip" and inserting in lieu thereof "two round trips".

(b) TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION EXPENSES.—

(1) EXPENSES ALLOWABLE.—Subchapter I of chapter 2 of title I of the Panama Canal Act of 1979 (22 U.S.C. 3641 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end thereof the following:

"TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION EXPENSES

"SEC. 1210. The Commission may pay the expenses of vacation leave travel for an employee of the Commission to whom section 1206 of this Act applies and for transportation of employee's family from the employee's post of duty in Panama to the place of the employee's actual residence at the time of appointment to the post of duty. The authorization of expenses under this section shall be in accordance with subchapter II of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, and the regulations issued under that subchapter, except that the Commission may prescribe required periods of service notwithstanding section 5722 of title 5, United States Code, and the regulations issued under subchapter II of chapter 57 of such title.". 22 USC 3650. 22 USC 3646. 5 USC 5721.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents of the Panama Canal Act of 1979 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 1209 the following:

"1210. Travel and transportation expenses.".

(c) USE OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR HEALTH CARE AND EDUCATIONAL SERVICES.—Section 1321(e) of the Panama Canal Act of 1979 (22 U.S.C. 3731(e)) is amended to read as follows:

"(e) The appropriations or funds of the Commission, or of any other department or agency of the United States conducting operations in the Republic of Panama, shall be available to defray the cost of—

"(1) health care services to elderly or disabled persons who were eligible to receive such services before the effective date of this Act, less amounts payable by such persons, and

(2) educational services provided by schools in the Republic of Panama, which are not operated by the United States, to employees of the Commission who are citizens of the United States and persons who were receiving such services at the expense of the Canal Zone Government before the effective date of this Act.".

SEC. 6. COMPENSATION FOR NON-GOVERNMENT BOARD MEMBERS.

Section 1102(b) of the Panama Canal Act of 1979 (22 U.S.C. 3612(b)) is amended in the last sentence by inserting immediately before the period at the end thereof the following: ", except that, in addition to such travel or transportation expenses, members of the Board who hold no other office with either the Government of the United States or the Republic of Panama for which they receive pay are authorized to be compensated at the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay in effect for grade GS-18 of the General Schedule under section 5332 of title 5, United States Code, for each day during which they are traveling to or from or attending meetings of the Board as provided in subsection (c) of this section".

SEC. 7. NOTIFICATION OF TRANSFER OF PROPERTY.

Section 1504(b) of the Panama Canal Act of 1979 (22 U.S.C. 3784(b)) is amended in the second sentence by striking out "At least 180 days before" and inserting in lieu thereof "Before".

22 USC 3612 note.

SEC. 8. EFFECTIVE DATE.

Section 5 and section 6 of the Act shall be effective as of October 1, 1985.

Approved December 28, 1985.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 1784:

HOUSE REPORT No. 99-59 (Comm. on Merchant Marine and Fisheries).
SENATE REPORT No. 99-207 (Comm. on Armed Services).
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 131 (1985):
May 14, considered and passed House.
Dec. 12, considered and passed Senate, amended.
Dec. 17, House concurred in Senate amendments.

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